

## Question: What evidence do we have that the Bible is from God?

How should we view the Bible? Is it merely the subjective thoughts of men about his wishful delusion of a “higher power,” or is it the infallible revelation of God’s will for mankind? Is the Bible just one religious book among many, or is it God’s one and only inspired Book? Is it fact or fiction? Is it pious fraud or profound truth? The conclusion we reach is a matter of life and death for our soul.

To begin with, we must discuss the matter of *inspiration*. The apostle Paul wrote, “*All Scripture is given by inspiration of God, (2Ti 3:16)*. The word “*inspiration*” means God-breathed. What does Paul mean in making this claim? I’ll answer that question in just a moment. Keep in mind that *inspiration* is a term that is used in many senses today. Some will say that the Old and New Testament writers were *inspired* in the same sense as William Shakespeare. Others will say that parts of the Bible are *inspired*, but much of it is not. Some hold the view that God passed along the thoughts and allowed the writers to use their own words.

To understand the subject of Biblical inspiration, it will help to read what Jesus said regarding the *inspiration* of His apostles. To them, he made a promise, “*And you will be brought before governors and kings for My sake, as a testimony to them and to the Gentiles. But when they deliver you up, do not worry about how or what you should speak. For it will be given to you in that hour what you should speak; for it is not you who speak, but the Spirit of your Father who speaks in you*” (Mt 10:18-20). Not only were the apostles given the very words to speak (and “*how*” they were to be spoken) during trials before civil authorities, but they had such power at other times also. Jesus promised to send them “*the Spirit of truth,...He will guide you into all truth*” (Jn 16:13-14).

The logic follows, that since the apostles were inspired of God, then Paul’s claim that “*All scripture is given by inspiration of God*” is a true and trustworthy claim — A claim that pertains to both Old and New Testament Scripture. The writings of Moses and the prophets are the very words of God unto the children of Israel. The writings of the apostles, are the pure words of God calling people of all nations to repent, and follow Christ Jesus the Lord (Ac 3:19; 17:30-31).

We live in an age of skepticism concerning the supernatural. Modern critics of the Bible are doing all they can to destroy our confidence in the Book of God. Be prepared to defend the Bible’s claim of Divine Inspiration. Ask any doubter how 40 different men (most of whom never met each other) on at least 2 different continents over a period of 1600 years could write so consistently of the true and living God in Heaven and His will for man upon the earth.

The following is just one example. Paul told the Athenians, “*God, who made the world and everything in it, since He is Lord of heaven and earth, does not dwell in temples made with hands. Nor is He worshiped with men’s hands, as though He needed anything, since He gives to all life, breath and all things*” (Ac 17:24-25). Over a thousand years before, Moses wrote, “*In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth*” (Gen 1:1). Several hundred years later, Solomon said, at the dedication of the temple, “*But will God indeed dwell on the earth? Behold, heaven and the heaven of heavens cannot contain You. How much less this temple which I have built!* (1Kgs 8:27). More to come please keep reading.

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